Development of Dry Farming in Bangalore District

521. Sri G. RAME GOWDA (Doddaballapur).—

Will the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state:—

(*a*) the percentage of irrigated area in Bangalore District ;

(*b*) The Scheme envisaged for development of dry Farming in the District ?

Sri B. RACHAIAH (Minister for Agriculture).—

(*a*) 12.22 per cent.

(*b*) Contour-bunding has been taken up as a measure of development of dry farming in the District. The Farmers are also being advised to adopt contour cultivation and other Dry Farming practices.

Calling Attention to a matter of urgent Public importance *re* : Police firing, etc., in Gadag

Sri K. H. PATIL (Hubli).—I call the attention of the Hon. Chief Minister to the Police firing and lathi charge at Gadag.

Sri MANIKRAO PATIL.—Sir, onbeha lf of the Chief Minister I read the following Statement :

As the Hon. Members are already aware a statement was made in this House on 27th February 1970 regarding the agitation in Hubli-Dharwar as a protest against the Central Government's tentative proposal to reopen the Mysore-Maharashtra border issue. The present situation at Hubli-Dharwar is reported to be fairly normal except for a few stray incidents. On 27th February 1970 about 2,000 students of Karnatak College, Dharwar proposed to take out a procession. In view of the prohibitory orders in force they were advised not to take out the procession, but they did not pay heed to the advice. The students who went about shouting slogans and forcing shops to close indulged in pelti g stones at the shops and the police. After mild lathi-charge, the police dispersed the crowd by about 16-00 hours. The prohibitory orders under section 35 of the Mysore Police Act in Hubli-Dharwar Corporation area have been extended for a further period of one week.

In Hubli, at about 22-30 hours on 27th February 1970, some students blocked the road by placing cement pipes across the national high-way near Vidyanagar. Before the police could reach the spot and remove the obstruction, a lorry loaded with edible oil and jowar came at high speed. The driver of the lorry who noticed the obstacles across the road suddenly applied brakes and the lorry turned turtle and fell on its left side. One person who was sitting on the load died on the spot